

**Weekly Bureau of Information for All Who Till the Soil or Are Interested in Making Homes**

## AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

All inquiries and communications addressed to The Times-Dispatch will receive prompt attention. This department will appear each Monday, and contributions or suggestions will be welcomed.

**Facts for Farmers, Stock Breeders, Poultry Raisers, Orchardists, Truckers and Gardeners—Queries and Answer**

### PROFITABLE BUTTER-MAKING ON THE FARM

BY R. L. SHUFORD.

To make butter profitable on the farm we must first have good cows. Constitutional vigor in a dairy cow is something we cannot pour into an animal with a bottle; it has to be bred and fed into her.

First, breed from nothing but strictly healthy animals. After we have healthy cows we should know their capacity. The value of the dairy cow depends upon her capacity to produce butter and milk at a profit. So the first thing we ought to do is to use the scales and the Babcock test and find out whether old Brindle is paying or not. It is not enough to know that a cow gives a full milk when she is fresh; we must know what she produces in a year. If we were dairymen for fun it might be all right not to know these things, but for business we must use business methods.

To get the most profit out of butter on the farm it is necessary to do it in a co-operative way. Get several of your neighbors interested. This is particularly necessary when the market is not very good, and the product has to be shipped, as it is rather expensive to ship a small amount often, which is very necessary to do in order to get the best price. By combining the shipments the cost can be very much reduced.

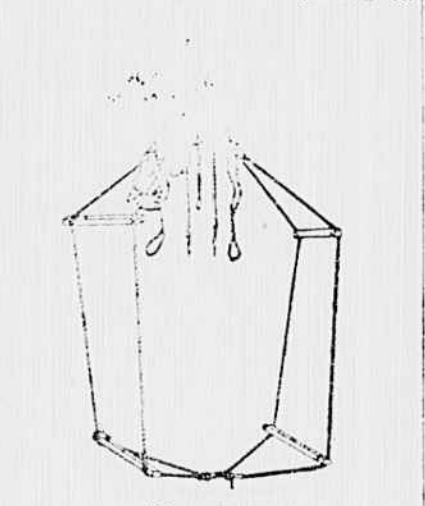
By the use of the separator and the proper handling of the cream there is no reason why we cannot make as good or even better butter on the farm than the creameries. If we try to make butter by hand, we know that we are sure to turn out the best product. A good quality of butter will greatly increase consumption. When only inferior butter is on the market people use little of it. I was once told by one of my customers that the only objection he had to my butter was that it took too much of it, that he used double the amount that he did of cheap butter.

Co-operation with your neighbors will also greatly help in breeding up better dairy cattle. By co-operating we can buy the best stock and change our breeding without so much expense. In fact, every dairy man, it matters not how small his business, should make an effort to breed registered stock, as it does not cost any more to raise them, and when he has a surplus there is so much more profit in what he sells.

One among the most noted Jersey breeders in America is a man who only keeps eighteen to twenty cows. He has bred and developed many of the very best producers. On the island of Jersey the best cows have been developed by small dairymen through co-operation. If the average farmer could get rid of his prejudices and false notions about registered stock and stop saying, "They say grades are worth about as much for business as registered stock," he would put himself far along on the road toward the improvement of his cows and the big increase in their earnings. They seem to stick to the idea that the haphazard cow is really better and not here profitable than a cow born of an improved sire and dam. The same low grade of judgment prevails upon the subject of feeding. Many people think they cannot afford to feed their cows well. It is true that no man can afford to buy feed, or raise it either, for poor cows, but it is certainly true that no man can afford not to feed a good cow the right food and all she will eat and digest.

### SLING FOR HAY-FORK

The unloading of hay is now a comparatively easy task, made so by the use of machinery. Any man who has ever pitched hay from a wagon into a stack will appreciate the advantages of the hay-fork and sling. In one form of sling and fork, the sling is generally used throughout the East. The sling is adjusted upon the hay-rack and the hay loaded on without any particular care as to placing it.



Sling Closed.

When the sling reaches the barn as many drafts as can be taken off the good forkfuls are elevated, then without removing the fork it is hooked to the sling attachment by the end pulleys and pulled upon the free end of the rope until the hay is in the balance of the load around the fork. The trip rope is unclipped from the fork and attached to the swing. The value of the sling is in the saving of time in emptying the load with a hand-fork for the last draft with the horse-fork and cleaning up all the hay on the wagon.

These slings cost from \$2 to \$2.50 each.

**The Elks' Revenge.**  
Ten little flies  
All in a line  
One got a swat  
Then there were nine.

Nine little flies  
Climbing the eaves  
Linking their chains—  
Swat! Then there were eight.

Eight little flies  
Raising some more—  
Swat, swat, swat, swat  
Then there were seven.

Four little flies  
Colored green-blue  
Swat! (Ain't it easy?)  
Then there were three.

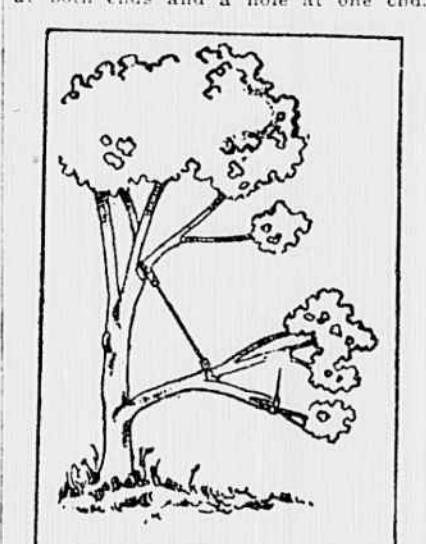
Two little flies  
Dodged the civilian—  
Early next day  
There were a million!

—Buffalo News

**Make Farm Life Attractive.**  
In a large number of farm homes about the only time that the family are together is at mealtimes. It should be the duty of parents to spend at least an hour each day with the children, telling the boys and girls what their interests are, their parents' interests also, for in no other way can the fathers and mothers keep so near a hold on their young lives.

### DON'T LET LIMBS BREAK

A California man has invented a device for supporting limbs of trees that are either broken or sagging with their burden of fruit, which is very practical. Two iron hooks have slots at both ends and a hole at one end.



Handy Limb Supporter.

One of the hooks is thrown over a sound upper limb near the crotch, and the other is adjusted on the limb below that requires support. A piece of strong wire is then fastened to both hooks by means of the slots and perforations, and pulled up till the sagging branch is in proper position. The wire is then twisted fast and there is no danger of its yielding or breaking, as rope has been known to do.

### SOME PLAIN POINTERS ON SILO BUILDING

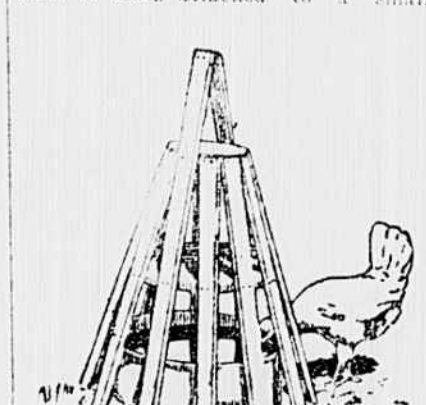
Many statements have been made about the different kinds of silos that are not strictly true. For example, in many cases men who are interested in promoting various makes of silos have made the statement that some certain kind of silo will keep silage better than any other kind. That is "bunk" of the worst kind. All of the standard kinds of silo will keep silage about equally well, if they are well built.

There is considerable talk about the underground silo, and its advantages. It is being advocated by men who ought to know better. An underground silo is a poor thing to have. It is hard to get the silage out of it, and it is dangerous because of the gases that are formed. While the first cost may be a little less than an above-ground silo, it is more expensive when the cost of getting the silage out of the hole, and the bother of the whole proposition are considered. Don't build an underground silo, for it will pay so much better to build a good one above ground, and remember you can keep silage about equally well in all of the principal kinds. All you have to consider is the cost, maintenance expense and probable life. When these factors are worked out, it will be found, in many cases, that either the thin-wall or the solid-wall type of cement silo is the best. Investigate the advantages of cement silos carefully before you decide to build some other kind.

**Don't Feed Corn Fodder Alone.**  
I asked one of our neighbors how he regarded corn fodder and he replied: "It's good roughage, and will just about carry animals along during a mild winter, but it will not fatten them or make much growth, and it will make the calves get bellied if they get nothing else." Isn't he about right?

### AN EASILY-MADE COVERED FOUNTAIN

Clean water should be provided for the poultry at all times. In order to keep the fowls from getting into the drinking pan, it is necessary to make some sort of a covering. A frame built of slats attached to a small



round board at the top and a larger round board placed about a foot above the water pan makes a splendid device. When placed over the pan the chickens have free access to the water through the slats, and the water keeps much cooler by being shaded. The frame cover may easily be lifted off and the water pan cleaned and refilled. By this arrangement the chickens cannot tip the water over.

### BRIEF NOTES THOUGHT OUT BY THE WAYSIDE

The late J. Sterling Morton, of Nebraska, was the founder of Arbor Day.

Coarseness in hogs indicates low vitality, slow feeding qualities and sluggishness.

Cannas require a rich soil, plenty of water and sun for their best development.

Trim any apple or plum trees that are overbearing. It pays.

Sheep that are in any way diseased should never be retained for breeding stock, no matter how good a fleece or lamb they may produce.

A milk flow once allowed to go down by default cannot be fully regained until the cow freshens again.

July is generally the best month in which to turn the cockerels into capons, but it may be done the first half of the month with success.

"Clean up, keep clean, and kill the fly," is the admonition of science to the householder, the community, and the city or town.—Stephen A. Forbes, Illinois State Entomologist.

It don't pay to keep cows for a side issue, get the cow and make dairying a business just like any branch of farm work.

To conserve the snows of the Blue Mountains in the Wenaha Forest Reserve, the Government Forestry Bureau is planning to treat thousands of acres with shrubbery and develop dormant springs. There will be double the water supply in the summer, it is believed, when the treatment of the mountain forest is completed.

It is certainly less trouble not to mix wet manures or cow feed for small chicks, and they will do as well on dry, uncooked feed. Cooked or wet feed leaves dirtier eating vessels or feeding places, more soor stuff lying around to start digestive troubles, so why take the trouble to do a lot of unnecessary work?

When picking raspberries or blackberries, the fruit should be ready to part from the hull or calyx which is insignificant on these two fruits, but with the strawberry an effort should be made to retain the hull that the fruit may retain its freshness until it reaches the consumer.

### The Farm Bathing.

A fixed bathtub in the house is a benefit to every member of the household, and especially to the children, because it encourages habits of cleanliness. Who does not look with more favor on a bath when warm soft water can be readily run into an attractive white-lined tub, than when the only accommodations are a cold portable tub which must be brought from the cellar, and hard water carried from the well and heated in a wash boiler, carried outside and emptied after use, and all utensils cleaned, dried and put away, five unnecessary operations.

### The Farmer.

With the increase in the crops there has been an increase in prices. Just as the farmers have learned how to make two grains grow where one grew before, the manufacturers have discovered new uses for their products.

In the end the prosperity of the country comes down to the crops. Banker, broker, merchant—every man in close touch with business conditions—takes off his hat, verbally, at least, to the great American farmer.

### Indigestion Kills Young Ducks.

A great many young ducks are killed by wrong feeding. I feed more cornmeal ground fine, mixed with four parts cornmeal and one part fine white sand, or fine gravel sifted.

Stir the sand and gravel up with your meat and water and feed three times a day. Always give water when you feed them, as ducks cannot eat without drinking at the same time. Take the water away when they are through eating.

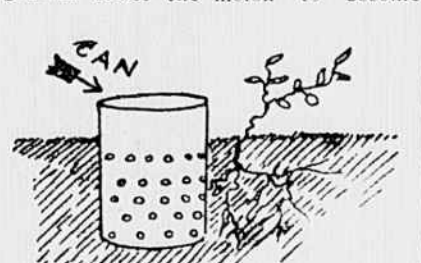
I tried this plan last year and raised forty-four out of sixty. The year before I had 100 hatch, but only raised thirteen. I also kept the little ducks shut up with the old chicken mother. They were a week old before I let them out.

**Picking Berries.**  
Unlike some of the tree fruits, berries must not be picked when underripe. They are unmarketable when overripe. Pick when of full color and flavor, yet firm.

At gathering of the fruit takes place so that the vines are relieved of their ripe fruit in the cool of the day, leaving the plants nothing to do but to ripen their remaining fruit when warmth and sunshine will hasten the process. The full crop will be sooner brought to maturity. The berries are better for being gathered in the cool of the day, but when, as is often the case, they must be gathered when warm from the sun, they should be taken as soon as possible to a cool, breezy, shaded place. The packing shed should be ample enough to shelter all crates of berries until ready for shipment. A breeze is helpful when the fruit is dewy, but a hot, dry wind will mar the freshness of the fruit.

### GIVING THE WATER-MELON A DRINK

When the season turns extremely dry just before or about the time watermelons begin to ripen, the drought and the consequent slow growth cause the melon to become



tough and unpalatable, sometimes unfit for one to eat at all.

To guard against these conditions and the damaging results, punch small holes about the sides and bottom of a common No. 2 can, sink it in the soil within a few inches of the melon, and fill it with water as often as the dryness of the weather demands.

Place something over the can to prevent the water from evaporating, and it will creep through the holes into the soil, furnishing plenty of moisture to refresh and properly develop the plant.

### Keep Down Potato Bugs.

Potato bugs are very easily controlled by spraying your vines with arsenate of lead or Paris green. You can obtain either of these materials from the store in your town, in which spraying materials are handled. Mix the poison according to the directions on the package, or if a very small quantity is wanted, use about a teaspoonful of the poison to a large bucket of water. Apply it with a sprayer of some sort, but if your patch is small and you don't have a sprayer, sprinkle the poisoned water over the foliage of your potatoes with a sprinkling can, or even a broom.

### Beautifying Waste Places.

We may add as much to the beauty of our surroundings by hiding unsightly objects and destroying obnoxious weeds, as by growing flowers. Watch the back yard and the roadside that these thieves of the soil do not get a foothold. I once found a thrifty patch of burdocks on the roadside, which I got rid of by simply cutting off the tops, making quite an excavation at the roots, into which I put a generous handful of salt. There was no more trouble with the burdocks.

### Notes of the Sheep Fold.

As the country ages and the fertility of its fields becomes exhausted its appreciation of the sheep will increase.

Early maturity is an important quality to consider in selecting sheep.

Whether you are keeping sheep for pleasure or profit, your desire will be fully met if your flock is of superior quality.

A strong sheep does not necessarily need to be a large one; in fact, a majority of the strongest sheep are medium in size.

Sheep do not interfere with, but fit nicely into, modern farming.

### ABSOLUTELY SAFE.

**If You Can Afford**

to spend money, you can certainly afford to save it. Think over this trite saying. Let it sink deep into your mind. Then follow your judgment and open an account in our Savings Department.

## First National Bank

Capital and Surplus, \$3,000,000.

Ninth and Main.

## Wanted

That good people may know the terms upon which this strong institution solicits accounts and the kind wanted.

Note the following:—

Personal and savings accounts and the deposit of idle money receive 3% interest on daily balances.

Such accounts subject to check in the usual way.

## Virginia Trust Co.

1106 East Main Street.

Richmond, Va.

Capital, - - - - - \$1,000,000.00.

Earned surplus, - - - - - 300,000.00.

(Established 1892.)

### WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW

**NEW ORLEANS, August 1.**—Cotton moved over a fairly broad price range last week, standing at the lowest, twenty to twenty-two points under the previous week's close, and thirty to thirty-two over at the highest. The close was at a net gain of ten to thirteen points. Reports of damage to the growing crop through drought was the main stimulating influence, although toward the week-end many traders appeared to be expecting a bullish report on condition from the government to-morrow.

Reports of shedding and forced maturity of bolls caused not only fresh long buying, but also brought about a fairly large volume of short covering. At the end of the week there was hardly a State in the belt which was not claiming deterioration through lack of rain.

This week is likely to see prevailing weather conditions the dominating factor, unless strong war or world politics developments arise. The new season this year opens with this week instead of September, as formerly was the case, and the detailed statistics, which are expected early this week, relating to the old crop, and the supply and distribution it is thought may stimulate trading.

### WEEKLY FINANCIAL REVIEW

**NEW YORK, August 1.**—The mounting fever of speculation in war order stocks last week expanded dealings in two days to more than a million shares, highly congested in a few favorites. These stocks reached the highest figures of record, although toward the close of the week there were recessions and evidence of a lessening demand. Violent reactions demonstrated the market's sensitive condition. The first was caused momentarily by the torpedoing of the American steamer Leelanaw. Others were due to headlong attempts to take quick profits.

A concerted effort was made to bring railroad stocks into the movement, with rumors of a favorable decision in the Western rate case. This effort met with doubtful success. United States Steel's quarterly earnings of nearly \$28,000,000 and the week's trade reports were substantial confirmation of the rising profits and volume of business from war orders. Call loans remained low, owing to the wish to keep capital liquid while successive war loans make investment conditions unstable.

### The First Fair.

The first full-fledged agricultural fair, primarily for competitive exhibits instead of for marketing, was held at the Columbian Agricultural Society, which was organized in 1912 by a number of gentlemen interested in agriculture, residing in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Its first exhibition was held in Georgetown, May 10, 1909, and the National Intelligence of that day reported that it was "attended by a numerous assemblage of members of the society, among whom we noticed the President and his lady, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War, the comptroller, register, etc., and many other ladies and gentlemen devoted to domestic animals and manufactures. Semi-annual fairs were held until the spring of 1912, when the war with England and the expiration of the time for which the society was organized caused its discontinuance. The oldest existing agricultural society that holds fairs is the Berkshire Agricultural Society, Pittsfield, Mass., which held its first fair in the autumn of 1810, or only one and one-half years after the first fair of the Columbian Agricultural Society.

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### ENORMOUS QUANTITIES OF WHEAT MUST BE HEDGED

**Transactions Will Be Larger Than Ever Before Because of Banner Crop in Southwest.**

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
**CHICAGO, August 1.**—Enormous quantities of wheat must be hedged in the Chicago market, and this selling already has been begun. There has been a delay in the marketing of the southwestern wheat crop because of rainy weather for many weeks, but it is believed better weather conditions shortly will prevail.

With a banner crop raised in the Southwest it means that hedging transactions at Chicago must be larger on that account than ever before. What harvesting already has been begun in the Northwest and a large part of that grain must be hedged in Chicago. Surplus conditions possibly may be against the wheat producer because of the delay in cutting the threshing and mowing the winter wheat crop. Now that the spring wheat soon will be ready for marketing, there is a possibility of sharply lower prices ruling.

As is usual at this season of the year, foreigners dwell upon the fact that their supplies are ample for the time being, and that they will experience no trouble in getting more than enough wheat to go around. Despite these claims by importing industries, Italy has ordered large quantities of wheat, and the United States and Great Britain is said to be planning to take over the wheat crops of Australia and Canada, but as these reports come wholly from importing nations, there is a possibility that this action may not be taken.

Although some of the best concerns in the trade still are on the bull side, the market is not so bullish as it was some big friends in the last fortnight. The weather is ideal for the development of the crop, and the official condition of the crop in Kansas is placed at 74, compared with 65 in June. The movement of the market is as strong as the weather is settled and threshing can be done on the farms. Because of the support given to the provision market of late by some of the larger packers and the fact that hogs have been well taken, has given the undertone a healthier feeling. The cash demand for salted pork has improved and it was reported that in the latter part of last week, foreigners

### Wood's Seeds.

## Crimson Clover

the best of soil-improving and forage crops for fall seeding. Puts land in splendid condition and increases productivity to a wonderful extent. Makes one of the best of winter cover crops, furnishes excellent grazing, the earliest green feed, or a good hay crop.

### Wood's Fall Catalog

gives full information about this valuable crop, and all other Clover and Grass Seeds, Seed Grains, etc., for fall seeding. Catalog mailed on request. Write for it and prices of any seeds desired.

**T. W. WOOD & SONS,**  
SEEDSMEN, - Richmond, Va.

### "ASK MR. BOWMAN"

For information and rates to California. Expositors before making arrangements elsewhere. He can probably save you money. Tickets by rail or water to all points. Phone Randolph 4567. 618 E. Main St., Richmond, Va.

**RICHMOND TRUST & SAVINGS COMPANY**

Main & Seventh

ONE MILLION DOLLARS CAPITAL

Savings  
Banking  
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were buying lard in much larger quantities.

### Suggestions to Poultry Raisers.

To the producers: Keep standard-bred stock, thus insuring uniformity of products. Sell only full-sized (two ounces) fresh, clean, uniform eggs. Keep nests clean; confine broody hens; gather eggs twice daily. Keep in a cool place, free from odors of all kinds.

Do not offer for sale small, dirty, checked, stained or doubtful eggs. Most of these may be consumed at home at full market value.

Fatten all surplus poultry, bringing stock up to standard weight.

To shippers: Pack eggs only in standard cases, with medium fillers, using excelsior, cork shavings, cut straw or corrugated board.

Store cases in cool, dry place only, free from odors, avoiding heat, drafts and dampness.

Ship eggs often—at least twice a week in warm weather—by express or in refrigerator cars.

Ship live, healthy poultry in large standard coops, dressed poultry, neatly wrapped and packed in boxes or barrels, to reliable dealers.

### SUMMER RESORTS—Atlantic City

## ELBERON

AND KILBOURN, ANNE, Tennessee Avenue, near Beach Central, Open surroundings. Opposite Protestant and Catholic Churches. Capacity 500. New throughout. Running water in rooms. Private baths. Metal beds. 4.00 a week. Excellent table. Fresh vegetables. Windows screened. When desired. Special: \$3.00 to \$21.00 weekly; \$1.50 to \$3.50 daily. R. B. LUDY, M. D.

### SPECIAL SUMMER RATES

\$2.00 up daily; \$9.00 up weekly.

### ALBEMARLE

Leading high-class moderate rate hotel, Virginia Ave., near Beach, and all attractions. Capacity 250. 100 room front rooms. New metal beds, comfortable furnishings. Elevators, private baths. 4.00 a week. Excellent table (evening dinner). Courteous service. Home-like. Motorists' patronage solicited. J. P. COPE.

**THE WILTSHIRE** Virginia Avenue and Beach, capacity 200; private baths, running water, free from odors, etc.; music. Special—\$2.00 up weekly; \$2.00 up daily; open all year; booklet; auto at train. SAMUEL ELLIS.

## HOTEL RALEIGH

Beach Front Accommodations at Half Price. St. Charles Place & Beach.—The popular resort within sight and sound of the ocean. 200 large rooms, all open, expensive private baths, running water, porches, elevator, etc. Booklet. H. J. DYNES.

## LEXINGTON

Pacific & Ark Ave. Grounds with tennis courts, adj. to beach. Only popular prices. Hotel with 100 rooms, all open, expensive private baths, running water, porches, elevator, etc. Booklet. H. J. DYNES.

**HOTEL FRANCIS.**  
South Michigan Ave. making all attractions. Noted for its select patronage. Rooms single or double, with private baths. Rates: \$2 daily; \$9 weekly; \$15 weekly; capacity 200. Booklet. J. F. & M. C. DONOVAN.

## KENTON HALL

On beach at Belmont Avenue, Chelsea, Va. elegant ocean view; running water in all rooms; elevators; capacity 100. THOS. BENT.

**Hotel Majestic** Virginia Avenue and Beach. Renovated throughout; elevator; private baths; white service, etc. Special: \$2.00 up weekly; \$2.00 up daily. Booklet. H. J. DYNES.

**HOTEL RAYMOND** Virginia Avenue near Beach and Steel Pier. Rooms with private bath and running water. H. J. & F. L. MILLER.

### SUMMER RESORTS—Virginia

### Orkney Springs Hotel and Baths.

Orkney Springs, Va., Open June 1. Beautiful mountains; always cool; elevation 2,300. If you value health, pleasure, rest, comfort, and good food, this is the place. Restorative waters equal Carlsbad, Germany, for nervousness, indigestion, general debility, rheumatism, kidney, and blood troubles. Free amusement, dancing, pool, tennis, croquet, good table, reasonable rates. Map and booklet. H. C. Carter, Prop.

### SCHOOLS.

## MEDICAL COLLEGE OF VIRGINIA

MEDICINE—DENTISTRY—PHARMACY  
Stuart McCune, M. D., Dean  
New building, completely equipped.  
Extensive Hospital and Dispensary facilities.  
J. R. McCauley, Secretary  
1120 East Clay Street, Richmond, Va.

**Half Dozen Small Boys**  
tutored in a country home under the eye of a physician.

DR. P. B. BARRINGER, Charlottesville, Va.

## Grove Park Inn

Sunset Mountain, Asheville, N. C.

### Special Summer Rates

The finest resort hotel in the world. It is absolutely fireproof. Remains open all the year.

The finest golf